

Columbia Missourian
Worthington named chief diversity officer at MU
By QUINN KELSEY
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COLUMBIA — MU has named its first chief diversity officer: Roger L. Worthington, interim assistant to the deputy chancellor.

Worthington, an associate professor of Educational, School and Counseling Psychology at MU, served as a faculty fellow to the deputy chancellor for two years and then as interim diversity officer for the past two years. According to a release from the MU News Bureau, he is expected to serve as a consultant on campus diversity initiatives, support MU's commitment to equal opportunity and coordinate the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative, which promotes a more inclusive campus climate.

"It has been wonderful to serve the MU community over the past 11 years as a faculty member, faculty fellow to the deputy chancellor and interim chief diversity officer, and I am pleased to have the opportunity to continue serving in this role on a permanent basis as the assistant deputy chancellor for diversity," Worthington said in the release. As chief diversity officer, Worthington will earn a \$116,292 salary.

Worthington has served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education, the editorial board of the journal Diversity Officers in Higher Education, and the American Psychological Association Task Force on appropriate therapeutic responses to sexual orientation. At MU, he was a member of the Chancellor's Strategic Planning and Resource Advisory Council, Faculty Council and Gaines/Oldham Black Culture Center Advisory Council.

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University hires chief diversity officer
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The University of Missouri has given the nod to Roger Worthington to assume the full-time position of chief diversity officer to coordinate the campus's efforts in multi-cultural areas.

"He will be trying to bring all these people who have a serious dedication to trying to enhance our diversity and reap the benefits of that diversity, but do it in an organized, coordinated way," Deputy Chancellor Mike Middleton said this morning. Middleton said the position was created two years ago and that he formerly conducted some of the work.

Worthington has served as interim chief diversity officer since the position was

created and will continue to work to create a synergy between existing programs and resources. He also will advance forums, classes and workshops on diversity and multi-cultural issues, hiring and recruitment.

Worthington, an assistant professor in the Department of Educational, School and Counseling Psychology since 1997, serves on the editorial board of the journal *Diversity in Higher Education*, and he serves on the American Psychological Association Task Force on appropriate therapeutic responses to sexual orientation.

Worthington is a nationally recognized scholar on issues of human diversity in counseling and education. He has served in numerous leadership roles on campus and has been awarded the MU Graduate Professional Council's Gold Chalk Award for teaching excellence.

Worthington's salary will increase from \$101,089 to \$116,292, and he will move from a nine-month to a 12-month position.